and are functioning satisfactorily.

(c) To avoid drifting of buoys, the Kandla Port Trust is considering installation of modern buoys in a phased matter.

Report submitted by New TRAI

*175. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new TRAI has submitted its Report containing its recommendations to Government;

(b) if so, whether it is binding on Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Collection of additional Excise duty

*176. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of total additional excise duties collected by Government in 1998-99 and 1999-2000 till December, 31, 1999;

(b) whether Government would ensure that the States' share is protected from this source;

(c) whether there is any provision to replenish this Fund if excise revenue falls due to new policies in the North East; and

(d) the details of the replenishment fund organised by Government to protect States' share of additional excise revenues?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASWANT SINHA): (a) The collection of additional excise duty in 1998-99 was Rs. 2960.40 Crore and in 1999-2000 till December, 1999 was Rs. 2142.00 Crore.

(b) to (d) States' share in Central taxes is determined on the basis of the